Minister launches app to improve municipal services

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Local Government Mian Khan Afridi on Tuesday launched a digital complaint redressal application – Mansooba-i-Amal – aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability and efficiency in municipal service delivery across the province.

The application was inaugurated during a ceremony held at the Local Governance School in Hayatabad, which was attended by officials of tehsil municipal administrations from various districts.

Secretary local government Zafarul Islam and other senior officers were also present.

Addressing the gathering, the minister said the Mansooba-i-Amal app would provide citizens with an easy and effective platform to register complaints and share feedback regarding municipal services, including sanitation, service delivery issues and response delays.

He said complaints would initially be forwarded to the relevant officers at the lowest administrative level to ensure prompt resolution at the grassroots level.

Mr Afridi added that if complaints remained unresolved, they would automatically be escalated to higher authorities, ensuring effective monitoring and accountability within the system.

The use of modern technology is essential for timely redressal of public grievances and for improving governance outcomes, he remarked.

The minister said the provincial government was committed to providing fast, transparent and citizen-friendly municipal services.

He disclosed that the application had been installed on his own mobile phone and that he would personally monitor the performance of the complaint redressal mechanism.

Officials briefed the minister on the operational structure, monitoring features and escalation procedures of the application.

The minister urged citizens to make responsible use of the app, emphasising that public participation was vital for improving cleanliness, service delivery and overall local governance in KP. — APP

Students end protest after recovery of missing colleagues

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: A group of students of the University of Peshawar on Tuesday called off their 38-day-long protest after recovery of their missing colleagues.

The students under the banner of Waziristan Students' Society had set up protest camp outside the Khyber Medical College on the premises of UoP against the mysterious disappearance of two of their colleagues.

The students, including Khubaib Wazir of the third semester at the international relations department, and Adnan Wazir of fifth semester at the political science department, were released by their captors near Khairabad near Attock bridge, one of the students told Dawn.

He said that unidentified people had taken both students away as the two were returning to the campus after attending the jirga convened by the provincial government at the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Nov 12.

The protest was launched by the Waziristan Students' Society, with the activists of the ruling PTI's Insaf Student Federation being in the forefront.

Both the students were released after 67 days detention.

PERSONNEL of local civic agency on Tuesday sprinkle salt to make the artery connecting Mansehra-Naran-Jalkhad Road with the tourists' resort of Shogran safe for travel. The mountainous parts of the district received light snowfall on Monday night, plunging the mercury to sub-zero temperature. — Photo by Nisar Ahmad Khan

PHC rejects Gandapur's plea against ECP notice

Accepts housing minister's petition against Election Commission's de-seating move

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Peshawar High Court on Tuesday rejected the petition of former Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister and Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf leader Ali Amin Gandapur against a notice of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) seeking information regarding some of his properties.

A bench consisting of Justice Syed Arshad Ali and Justice Mohammad Faheem Wali, which had reserved its verdict on the petition in Nov last year, pronounced a short order of turning down the plea, observing that no adverse action has so far been taken against the former chief minister.

It, however, accepted the plea of provincial housing minister Amjid Ali, who had challenged the ECP notice issued to him and the subsequent actions taken in connection with his assets, including the sending of a reference to the speaker of the provincial assembly for his disqualification

Mr Gandapur had requested the court to declare the impugned notice issued to him by ECP on Nov 20, 2024, as illegal, unconstitutional and against provisions of Elections Act, 2017.

In the impugned notice issued to Mr Gandapur, ECP had asked him to provide clarification within 15 days about a land measuring 735 kanals and 12 marlas, which he had declared sold in his statements of assets and liabilities submitted by him to the commission for the year ending on June 30, 2024.

He was asked to share the ownership documents and sale deed of the said land with the commission.

Mr Gandapur had also sought declaration of the court that the impugned notice was issued in a mala fide manner and was based on political victimisation.

His counsel said that the former chief minister had submitted a statement of his assets and liabilities with the commission.

He said that after many months of submission of the said statement, he was asked by ECP to share the ownership documents and sale deed of the land, which the petitioner had shown as sold out.

The lawyer said that before elections, the petitioner furnished all details of his assets, which were microscopically scrutinised by the election watchdog through its nominated returning officer.

He argued that ECP had reopened the issue of the statement of assets and liabilities, which was based on mala fide intent and tainted with political malice, and had no legal backing.

ECP lawyer Sikandar Bashir Mohmand argued that the notice was issued to Mr Gandapur under Section 137(4) of Elections Act, under which if a statement of assets and liabilities was found to be false then the member could be proceeded against for committing corrupt practices.

He said that the said offence carried a sentence of up to three years imprisonment with fine of Rs100,000. He said while the counsel argued on point of disqualification, the said provision didn't deal with it.

The lawyer argued that the petitioner had approached the court prematurely as ECP had yet to start any proceedings for his disqualification.

He said that there was possibility that ECP would have closed the case after hearing the explanation of the petitioner, but he (petitioner) instead of submitting a reply there approached the high court and got interim relief of stopping ECP from proceeding further in the matter.

Meanwhile, senior lawyer Shumail Ahmad Butt appeared for Mr Amjid and said that the impugned notice was issued to his client by ECP wherein it was claimed that in the 2018 general elections he had declared ownership of 200 kanals of land before the relevant returning officer, but the same property had not been mentioned in the 2024 polls.

He said that one of his rival candidates, Azizullah Garan, had filed an application with ECP against the petitioner regarding the said disputed property.

The lawyer said the disputed property carried a stamp of the year 2017, but the petitioner was not aware about any such property or as to who had submitted documents regarding the same.

He argued that Swat deputy commissioner and tehsildar of Barikot tehsil had also expressed ignorance about the said property and had also recorded their statements with ECP in that regard.

Mr Butt pointed out that earlier, the high court granted interim relief to the petitioner and directed ECP not to take any adverse action against him, but still the commission had sent a reference to the KP Assembly speaker for initiating proceedings for his disqualification.

He argued that no evidence had so far been provided that the property in question belonged to the petitioner.

The lawyer added that the speaker had also returned the reference to the commission, pointing out that a case can't be filed for the disqualification of the petitioner.

Three held for extracting money from Tirah IDPs

PESHAWAR: The Khyber district administration on Tuesday busted a group involved in affixing fake stamps on internally displaced persons' tokens in Bara, arresting three accused allegedly involved in the illegal activity.

Authorities said the arrested suspects were fraudulently stamping IDP tokens with forged bank and other official seals to illegally extract money from displaced families who had migrated from Tirah Valley.

They said the group had been operating in Bara and deceiving vulnerable IDPs.

The administration stated that strict measures were being taken at the registration centres in Bara to prevent the use of fake tokens and to ensure transparency in the process.

Meanwhile, the registration of IDPs from Tirah Valley is continuing in an organised, transparent, and dignified manner at the Painda Cheena centre under the supervision of the district administration.

Officials said Tirah assistant commissioner Mohammad Anwar, additional assistant commissioner Naseemullah Shah, tehsildar Zakir Afridi and others, along with their teams, remained present till late night to facilitate the public.

District officers are continuously monitoring all stages of the registration process. In the first phase, vehicles carrying women and children are being cleared, followed by vehicles carrying men.

To speed up the registration process, three additional registration centres have been established at different locations in Bara to ensure timely registration of a maximum number of affected families.

IDP families arriving from Tirah Valley are being provided rental assistance at Shin Kamar and Haji Mohammad Shah Hujra, while accommodation and other basic facilities are being arranged at the Painda Cheena camp. — APP

"ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CORRUPTION"

TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company)

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Request for Proposal

"Operation and Maintenance of VRF System and Sewerage Treatment Plant in KPUMA Building"

Ref No: TPC/HR & Admin/OCB/Services/VRF&STP/2025-26/001 **Date:** January 21, 2026

1. TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company) is a Company set up under Section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017, and is responsible for project implementation, management and maintenance of urban rapid transit projects assigned by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Urban Mobility Authority.
2. TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company) invites technical and financial proposals from eligible service providers registered with FBR for income and sales tax and reflected on the Active Tax Payer List (ATL) of FBR and registered with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) for sales tax on services for **"Operation and Maintenance of VRF System and Sewerage Treatment Plant in KPUMA Building"**. Detailed scope of services is provided for in Request for Proposal document.
3. A complete set of Request for Proposal document may be downloaded by interested service providers from website of TransPeshawar (http://transpeshawar.pk/) or EPADS from publishing of advertisement in the newspaper till last day for submission of proposals.
4. Procurements will be carried out as per Act and Rules of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (KPPRA). Competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with the **Single Stage: Two Envelope** bidding procedure.
5. Bid security of requisite shape, form and amount shall be submitted in a manner as provided in the Request for Proposal document. The bid security in hard form, sealed in an envelope, shall be submitted on or before deadline for submission of bids to the office of the undersigned. Failure to submit bid security in hard form shall lead to rejection of proposals.
6. A pre-proposal meeting will be held on **January 27, 2026 at 11:30 AM (PST)** at TransPeshawar office, on address given below, for the service providers who wish to attend.
7. Proposals complete in all respect must be submitted electronically through EPADS on or before **February 10, 2026 at 11:30 AM (PST).** Hard bid submission is not allowed.
8. Technical Proposals shall be opened through EPADS on the same day, **February 10, 2026, at 12:00 PM (PST)** in the presence of service providers who choose to attend.
9. The advertisement is also available both on the websites of TransPeshawar (http://transpeshawar.pk) and KPPRA (http://kppra.gov.pk) and on EPADS. TransPeshawar reserves the right to cancel any or all bids by assigning cogent reason.

Chief Executive Officer
TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company)
TransPeshawar Head Office, First (1st) Floor KPUMA Building, Near Main BRT Depot, Chamkani, Peshawar. Ph: +92 91 2621393

ANP voices reservations about Tirah operation

Aimal advocates for targeted action against militants

By Ali Hazrat Bacha

PESHAWAR: The Awami National Party on Tuesday expressed concerns about the military operation in Tirah area of Khyber tribal district, with its president, Senator Aimal Wali Khan, wondering who will ensure that militants don't leave the area disguised as civilians.

"Military operations and the eviction of people are no solution to the issue of militancy," Mr Aimal told a function at the Bacha Khan Markaz here.

The event was held to inaugurate the Week of Bacha Khan to mark the 38th death anniversary of Khudai Khidmatgar leader Abdul Ghaffar Khan and the 20th death anniversary of Pakhtun leader Abdul Wali Khan.

Mr Aimal, who is also the chief executive of the Bacha Khan Trust, questioned the rationale behind population displacement for the Tirah operation.

He said operations were carried out against Tehreek-i-Labbaik in Punjab but no one was displaced, while incidents of kidnapping for ransom continued in several Sindh districts without residents being forced to go away.

The ANP leader wondered why only Pakhtuns had to face displacement for such offensives.

He alleged that the displacement was meant to seize livelihoods, trade and businesses of tribesmen.

Mr Aimal said operations and the eviction of people from their homes were no solution to the militancy problem.

He said during the ANP's government in the province, a military operation was carried out in Malakand Division but displaced people were provided with facilities and were not forced to live in tents.

"We ensured the displaced persons' dignified and timely resettlement after the situation stabilised," he said.

The ANP leader said that as the prime ministers, the approach of both Imran Khan and Nawaz Sharif towards Pakhtuns was unfriendly, while the current rulers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa appeared more interested in securing the release of their jailed leader, Imran Khan, than addressing people's issues.

He said that if the provincial government claimed to be powerless, it should quit.

"Secret deals at night and rhetoric in the day are unacceptable," he said.

AIMAL Wali Khan addresses a function in Peshawar on Tuesday. —White Star

Mr Aimal said "ideological and intellectual extremism" couldn't be eliminated through military operations.

He demanded the formation of a truth and reconciliation commission for the purpose. He also called for the accountability of all former military and civilian rulers.

The ANP leader wondered what action had been taken against those who brought terrorism to the region and said while people of terror-hit areas were displaced, those who facilitated terrorists hadn't been held accountable.

He called for targeted operations against militants and said in that case, displacement of civilians won't be needed.

Mr Aimal said the ANP could help restore cordial relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan by resolving issues through dialogue.

He said if elected to power, the ANP nominees would claim the rights of Pakhtuns.

The ANP leader paid tribute to Bacha Khan and Wali Khan for fighting for the people's rights.

He said Bacha Khan introduced the politics of non-violence, awareness and humanity in an era of conflict, while the Khudai Khidmatgar movement was a revolutionary mass struggle based on education, discipline and unity.

Mr Aimal said Wali Khan was a staunch advocate of constitutionalism, democracy and a strong federal Pakistan who never bowed before dictatorship and strengthened parliament as the voice of the people.

He said a strong Pakistan rested on strong provinces, supremacy of the Constitution and democratic politics.

"Nationalism is about rights and equality and not hatred," he said.

The ANP leader said non-violence, democracy, constitutionalism and education must be adopted in practice, as the path shown by Bacha Khan and Wali Khan was the path to peace, dignity and progress.

ANP central senior vice-president Dawood Khan Achakzai, secretary general Dr Mohammad Saleem Khan, finance secretary Senator Haji Hidayatullah Khan, secretary (foreign affairs)Sardar Hussain Babak, provincial president Mian Iftikhar Hussain, general secretary Hussain Shah Yousafzai and leaders Malik Faqir Ali, Shakir Shinwari and Arsalan Khan Nazim, attended the event along with a large number of workers and supporters.

The ceremony featured performances on national songs by Nungyalay Pakhtun's Salaran, book launches by the Bacha Khan Research Centre and stalls of books, art pieces, handicraft, traditional products and clothing.

Awards were also presented to individuals for outstanding contributions in various fields.